



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Grand Canyon News Release

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Park Rangers to Recover Body of a Female Hiker from Within Grand Canyon National Park

Grand Canyon, Ariz. – Park Rangers from Grand Canyon National Park are in the process of extracting the body of a female hiker located in a remote section of the canyon near the junction of Tonto Trail and Ruby Canyon. The National Park Service received a call from a commercial river trip just after noon today via satellite phone. The caller indicated that hikers had flagged them down to report a fatality in the inner canyon.

Park Rangers responded by helicopter early this afternoon and found the body of a woman, believed to be in her mid-fifty's. A total of six people were in the group hiking in the inner canyon, when one began having difficulties earlier in the week. Early indications are that she may have suffered a heat-related death as early as Tuesday. Three members in the group stayed with the body, while two others began to hike out to seek help. Another hiking party encountered the group that stayed with the body, and after learning of the woman's death, they hiked down to the river where they were able to flag down a passing river trip. The three hikers that stayed with the body were flown out by helicopter early this afternoon. The other two are still hiking out and are expected out later today.

The woman's body will be turned over to the Coconino County Medical Examiner's Office in Flagstaff, Arizona once it has been extracted from the inner canyon. The National Park Service is conducting an investigation.

The woman's name is being held pending notification of next of kin.

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